GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4861
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2002
VISIT OF KAZAKHSTAN PRESIDENT
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO;GADDE RAMAMOHAN

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the President of Kazakhstan visited India recently;

(b) if so, the issues discussed with him;

(c) the outcome thereof;

(d) whether Kazakhstan`s President advocated India`s presence in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, as reported in the `Hindu` dated February 13,2002; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) Yes Sir - from 11 to 14 February 2002

(b) Issues discussed during the visit of Kazakhstan President related to matters of bilateral interest, regional and international developments. Additionally issues concerning economic cooperation and the fight against terrorism were also discussed.

(c) A Joint Declaration was signed by the President of Kazakhstan and PrimeMinister of India setting out the understanding reached on these matters.

(d) Yes Sir

(e) The India- Kazakhstan Joint Declaration signed by the President of Kazakhstan and the Prime Minister of India mentions the following on Shanghai Cooperation Organization: -

`We have also noted the progress being made by the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) as a regional organization. Kazakhstan expressed the belief that considering India`s geographical proximity in the neighbourhood and its active participation on regional and global matters of cooperation, India`s membership of SCO would add to the strength of that organization.`